

Advanced Junior Ranger Program

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park
Curecanti National Recreation Area



2007 Registration Form

Participant's: Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone number: _____

School grade (06-07 school year): ☐ 3rd ☐ 4th

Parent or Guardian's: Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone number: _____
Email address: _____

Which program does your child plan to attend? (please check one box)

- ☐ Black Canyon on Thursdays from 10:00-2:00
- ☐ Black Canyon on Saturdays from 10:00-2:00
- ☐ Curecanti (Neversink) on Fridays from 10:00-2:00

- ☐ I am enclosing a check (made out to WNPA) in the amount of \$40 (after May 1st)
- ☐ I am enclosing a check (made out to WNPA) in the amount of \$35 (before May 1st)

Please send this form and your payment to:

Susanna Ausema, National Park Service, 102 Elk Creek, Gunnison, CO 81230

Thank you!

We will contact you to confirm that we have received this paperwork.



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park
Curecanti National Recreation Area
102 Elk Creek
Gunnison, Colorado 81230

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The National Park Service is pleased to announce the third annual Advanced Junior Ranger program this summer, 2007. Thank you for your interest in the program. We have carefully planned and selected our activities to suit the 3rd – 4th grade age bracket, and feel confident that your children will have fun while learning more about their environment.

In order for this program to be successful, we ask that the participants attend at least five of the seven scheduled activities. Each week, we'll cover a new topic, incorporating a Leave No Trace activity, applicable games and hands-on experiments. Those students who attend at least five of the seven activities will earn their Advanced Junior Ranger badge and certificate at the awards ceremony and campout.

We ask that you equip your children with a healthy lunch and snacks, plenty of drinking water, and appropriate clothing. We plan to conduct most, if not all, of the activities outdoors, so if the sunny weather becomes rainy and windy, all the children need to be well prepared. Participants should also wear tennis shoes, or other closed-toe shoes. We'll be active and explore the outdoors, so we want to avoid stubbing toes on rocks or a cactus.

Parents, grandparents, and guardians are welcome to participate in any of the activities. We'd especially invite you to attend the end of the summer camping trip, during which we'll present the Advanced Junior Ranger badges and certificates. If you're not able to spend the night, you are still welcome to join us for a potluck dinner and the awards ceremony.

If you would like to register your child for this program, please send your payment (checks can be made out to WNPA) as soon as possible to guarantee their place in the program. The program is limited to 20 children per group. One group will meet from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Black Canyon (campground/amphitheater) on Thursdays, another group at the same location and time on Saturdays, and one group will meet from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Neversink, in Curecanti National Recreation Area, on Fridays. On one occasion, the Black Canyon groups will meet at Neversink or East Portal and the Curecanti group will meet at the Black Canyon.

If you have any questions about the program, feel free to contact me at any time. My telephone number is (970) 641-2337 ext. 203, and my email address is susanna_ausema@nps.gov

Sincerely,

Susanna Ausema
Supervisory Education Specialist

Advanced Junior Ranger Program

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park
Curecanti National Recreation Area



Payment Information:

The fee to participate in the Advanced Junior Ranger Program is \$40 per student in 2007. This fee will help cover a portion of the program's operating costs.

The 2007 fee includes, upon successful completion of the program:

- Badge
- Certificate
- 1 free child's Morrow Point boat tour ticket
- National Park entry fee waiver for each weekly activity
- 1 night of free camping at Black Canyon NP or Curecanti NRA
- Weekly activities
- Program materials
- Weekly prizes

***Please make your check payable to **WNPA (Western National Parks Association)**. Your child's place in the program will be reserved upon receipt of the registration fee. Please send your check to:

Outreach Education Program
Attn: Susanna Ausema
102 Elk Creek
Gunnison, CO 81230

Thank you for supporting the educational programs offered by the National Park Service.

*payment is non-refundable

Advanced Junior Ranger Program

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park
Curecanti National Recreation Area



Items to Bring Each Week

- ☐ Lunch
- ☐ Snacks
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Well-fitting tennis shoes or hiking boots
- ☐ Jacket
- ☐ Rain gear (the weather can change dramatically without much notice)
- ☐ Backpack
- ☐ Any necessary medication

Curecanti National Recreation Area

Advanced Junior Ranger Program

2007-tentative schedule



Week 1 Friday, June 15

10:00-2:00 at Neversink

This week will be full of introductions-to each other, to the AJR program, to the activities that we'll work on throughout the summer, and more. We'll get to create our own national parks, learn about the RANGER rules, and even watch a skit about Leave No Trace, put on by the rangers.

Week 2 Friday, June 22

10:00-2:00 at Neversink

What do plants and animals need to stay alive? Their habitat! Today we'll learn about some of the plants that grow along the river at Neversink, and some of the animals that live here, too. You'll get to "adopt" a tree, learn about predators and prey, and decide where you would live if you were a wild animal at Neversink. We'll even go on a GPS scavenger hunt!

Week 3 Friday, June 29

10:00-2:00 at Neversink

What do bald eagles, elk, salmon, and butterflies all have in common? Come to today's activity to find out. We'll study these animals and more, as we track their migration patterns. We'll also study other adaptations that these animals use to survive. We'll make animal tracks and find clues that some animals have left behind on the Neversink Trail. We may even get to use telemetry equipment and a radio collar to see how scientists track migrating animals!

Week 4 Friday, July 6

10:00-2:00 at Neversink

Wonderful water! Pull on a pair of rubber boots (we'll supply the boots) and step into the Gunnison River. Let's find out together if the water that flows through our town is clean or dirty. We'll even get to use scientific equipment and find critters that live in the river. Get ready to use all of your senses to study the stream in our nature journaling activity.

Over→

Week 5 Friday, July 13

10:00-2:00 near campground, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park

*Drive west on Hwy 50 about 60 miles from Gunnison. Take a right on Rt. 347 (near mile marker #101) and drive about 5 miles (10 minutes) up the hill to the fee booth. Show the fee booth attendant the fee waiver provided to you by Susanna. Continue on this road until you see a road that turns to the right and says "campground." Our activities will take place near the campground's outdoor amphitheater, and we'll hike on the nearby trails, as well. Parents and siblings can feel free to drive around the park, hike, stop at the visitor center, and enjoy the views from the many overlooks until our activities end at 2:00. From Gunnison to our meeting place, the drive time is approximately 1:15 or 1:30 hours. Feel free to carpool from Gunnison using the phone list provided by Susanna.

How did this gigantic canyon form? Look down at the river, almost 2000 feet straight below. Hang on tight! Let's explore the power of water and do some fun experiments to see how the three types of rock are created as we study GEOLOGY!

Week 6 Friday, July 20

10:00-2:00 at Neversink

What a beautiful planet we live on! So many neat plants and animals, clean, clear water, and so much more. Today we'll talk about some things that we can do in our homes and classrooms to protect everything that we've learned so far as Advanced Junior Rangers. If we're lucky, we may even get to make our own solar ovens!

Week 7 Tuesday, July 31

4:00 PM at East Elk Creek group site (a couple miles west of Elk Creek Visitor Center and Marina, on Hwy 50)

CAMPOUT and AWARDS CEREMONY!!!

Congratulations! You've earned your Advanced Junior Ranger badge and certificate if you've attended at least 5 activities! At the campout, we'll explore a cool new area, eat dinner over a campfire, make s'mores, show off our Leave No Trace camping skills, search the sky for stars and learn some of the dark sky legends. Right after dinner, you'll be presented with your badge and certificate at the Advanced Junior Ranger Awards Ceremony. Invite your family to the campout, dinner, and awards ceremony! We'll sleep in tents, eat breakfast the next morning, and then say our goodbyes by 9:00 a.m. the next morning.

**Please note that this schedule is tentative. Activities may change with little or no notice. Dates will remain the same.*

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park

Advanced Junior Ranger Program

Tentative schedule-2007



Week 1 Thursday, June 14 or Saturday, June 16

10:00-2:00 at amphitheater near campground

This week will be full of introductions-to each other, to the AJR program, to the activities that we'll work on throughout the summer, and more. We'll get to create our own national parks, learn about the RANGER rules, and watch the rangers get silly in a Leave No Trace skit.

Week 2 Thursday, June 21 or Saturday, June 23

10:00-2:00 at amphitheater near campground

What do plants and animals need to stay alive? Their habitat! Today we'll learn about some of the plants that grow at the Black Canyon and some of the animals that live here, too. You'll get to become part of a tree, learn about predators and prey, and decide where you would live if you were a wild animal at the Black Canyon. We'll even go on a GPS scavenger hunt!

Week 3 Thursday, June 28 or Saturday, June 30

10:00-2:00 at amphitheater near campground

What do bald eagles, elk, salmon, and butterflies all have in common? Come to today's activity to find out. We'll study these animals and more, as we track their migration patterns. Which animal do you think travels the farthest to find a warm place to spend the winter? We'll get to make animal tracks and find clues that some animals have left behind on the trail. We may even get to use telemetry equipment and a radio collar to see how scientists track migrating animals!

Week 4 Thursday, July 5 or Saturday, July 7

10:00-2:00 at amphitheater near campground

How did this gigantic canyon form? Look down at the river, almost 2000 feet straight below. Hang on tight! Let's explore the power of water and do some fun experiments to see how the three types of rock are created as we study GEOLOGY!

Over→

Week 5 Thursday, July 12 or Saturday, July 14

10:00-2:00 (this event will take place at either East Portal at the Black Canyon, or at Neversink picnic area in Curecanti National Recreation Area, Hwy 50, 45 miles west of Montrose)

Wonderful water! Pull on a pair of rubber boots (we'll supply the boots) and step into the Gunnison River. Let's find out together if the water that flows through our town is clean or dirty. We'll even get to use scientific equipment and find critters that live in the river. Get ready to use all of your senses to study the stream in our nature activity notebook.

Week 6 Thursday, July 19 or Saturday, July 21

10:00-2:00 at amphitheater near campground

What a beautiful planet we live on! So many neat plants and animals, clean, clear water, and so much more. Today we'll talk about some things that we can do in our homes and classrooms to protect everything that we've learned so far as Advanced Junior Rangers. If we're lucky, we may even make our own solar ovens!

Week 7 Thursday, July 26 or Saturday, July 28

Meet at 4:00 PM at South Rim campground, pack up by 9:00 AM the next morning

CAMPOUT and AWARDS CEREMONY!!!

Congratulations! You've earned your Advanced Junior Ranger badges and certificates if you've attended at least 5 activities! At the campout, we'll explore a cool new area, eat dinner over a campfire, make s'mores, show off our Leave No Trace camping skills, search the sky for stars and learn some of the dark sky legends. Right after dinner, you'll be presented with your badge and certificate at the Advanced Junior Ranger Awards Ceremony. Invite your family to the campout, dinner, and awards ceremony! We'll camp in tents, eat breakfast the next morning, and then say our goodbyes by 9:00 a.m. Friday morning.

**Please note that this schedule is tentative. Activities may change with little or no notice. Dates will remain the same.*